

January 4, 1945.

Midn. H. D. McSpadden,
USS Prairie State, Sec. 3,
W. 135 & N. River St.,
New York 27, N.Y.

Dear Sparky:

It was great to hear from you, Sparky. I did appreciate your dissertation on Ray Evans - the same old modest Ray. He is a great guy. We are looking forward to the time when you and Ray and the other boys get back.

We are leaving at 5:30 tomorrow morning for Columbia, Missouri, and will return Saturday evening. We might have left at noon today, but due to the 48-hour limit for the Navy boys we must do it this other way. We are expecting a pretty rugged time down there. It is going to be rough enough when we meet Nebraska here on the 12th, but the fact that Oklahoma got bumped off by the Aggies confirms my opinion that those country boys are real "wrestlers". A returned Marine who formerly played at Emporia Teachers, shot a goal from the center of the court and beat the Sooners 54 to 53, while last night the Nebraska boys were leading Oklahoma by one point when "Scooter" Hines, a little 5 ft. 6 inch boy, who has been in the Marines, shot two quick goals in the last 20 seconds, and they won by three points. I'll bet on Iowa State to run up the gonfalon.

Lou Goehring, we hope, will soon be eligible to play again. I call him "Phi Beta Kappa Lou", but he says, "I don't know but what the Phi Beta Kappas would resent that."

Dean, as you know (confidentially), will be leaving us soon as one of the Army's civilian athletic trainers. He will be in the Mediterranean area, Bermuda and the British Isles. I had an offer to go but the Chancellor refused to let me leave. Since the flare-up in Europe, maybe it is just as well to postpone it a while. When you and Dean get back you will be eating that spaghetti with Dago pencils!

Lots of good luck to you, Sparky.

Cordially yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:H